

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY OF RIVERS ALLIANCE OF CONNECTICUT

February 23, 2018

RB 103 AAC HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT.

Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is a statewide, non-profit coalition of river organizations, individuals, and businesses formed to protect Connecticut's waters by promoting sound water policies, uniting and strengthening the state's many river groups, and educating the public about the importance of water stewardship.

To: Sen. Ted Kennedy Jr., Sen. Craig Miner, Rep. Mike Demicco, Chairmen; And Honorable Members of the Environment Committee:

Rivers Alliance of Connecticut asks you to pass this bill. Our research indicates that Connecticut does not have the resources to treat fracking waste safely. Our three hazardous waste facilities that send treated waste to POTWs struggle to meet standards even with their present inflow of waste. Nor does the state have the resources to monitor the import and domestic use of fracking waste in any form, even if, theoretically, the prudent rules were to be devised. We are a small, densely populated state with numerous brownfields and approximately 18 superfund sites. We need to clean up existing soil and water contamination before taking in any more waste.

Fracking waste is extremely corrosive and toxic. The petroleum and natural gas industry should do much more to analyze and explain the components of the waste, and to develop safe treatment methods. But the industry has largely ignored this responsibility. Therefore, to allow the importation of fracking waste would needlessly risk harm to the environment and people of this state by permitting exposure to this toxic material.

Thank you for your consideration and care for the environment of Connecticut

Margaret Miner,

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